

**April 15, 2005**

**OWSLEY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
LOCAL/STATE BOARD FACILITIES HEARING REPORT**

A public hearing was held at the Owsley County School Board Office on April 14, 2005, at 5:30 p.m. (local time). The purpose of the public hearing was to propose a new District Facility Plan (DFP) developed by the Owsley County Local Planning Committee. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 11-0 in favor of the proposed new plan and the local board voted 5-0 to approve the new plan.

There were (2) two individuals in attendance. Tim Lucas, Division of Facilities Management, served as the state-appointed hearing officer. Mr. Stephen Jackson, Superintendent, and Ray Shuler, DPP, were present.

**COMMENTS**

Mr. Shuler called the public hearing to order and welcomed those in attendance. The hearing officer outlined the purpose of the hearing and the hearing procedures in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. It was explained that those persons wishing to speak would be given the opportunity and that written statements would be accepted. It was also noted that all considerations will be made available to the Kentucky Board of Education via the hearing officer's report. The hearing officer read the proposed new DFP. It calls for priority projects to include: additions to the Owsley County Alternative School and High School, major renovation to the Owsley County High School, Elementary School, Alternative School, the Owsley County Board Office and Bus Garage. Discretionary projects include field lighting, press box and concession facilities at the softball field, new central storage building, high school dining patio and the construction of a physical education gym at the elementary school.

The floor was opened to those wishing to make a statement. Mr. Shuler and Mr. Jackson noted that the school district organization was actually P-6 and 7-12 and that the architect noted that the minor renovations to the elementary school as outlined under Discretionary Projects will be \$250,000. Upon review, the hearing officer noted that the central storage building noted under Discretionary Projects should be moved to priority 4. The hearing officer will make these adjustments to the DFP.

Mr. Jackson and Mr. Shuler noted that discussion at the Owsley County School Board Meeting centered on the High School Auditorium and the Elementary School Gym. They explained that one future possibility would be to renovate the existing historical elementary school gym into an auditorium and then to construct a new elementary gym. Mr. Jackson indicated that he is pursuing funds through private foundations and the General Assembly. The hearing officer suggested that he contact Gene Binion at Elliott County who has undertaken just such a project.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the new District Facility Plan developed by the Owsley County LPC and adopted by the Owsley County Board of Education be approved as the DFP for the Owsley County School District. A copy of the new plan is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy K. Lucas, Hearing Officer